

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 297854
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 TRSE-00 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 HEW-04 AGRE-00 COME-00 AID-05
ABF-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 /121 R

DRAFTED BY IO/IBC/SC:JDFOX:MFW
APPROVED BY IO - CWMAYNES
EB - JKATZ
L - SMSCHWEBEL
TREASURY - FBERGSTEN
-----033603 140216Z /70

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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USEEC, ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, AORG

SUBJECT: UN RESTRUCTURING: USG FINAL POSITION

REF: USUN 5597

1. AT FINAL FORMAL PLENARY SESSION OF AD HOC COMMITTEE ON
THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE
UN SYSTEM, USDEL SHOULD INDICATE USG POSITION ON DRAFT CON-
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SOLIDATED TEXT (AS AMENDED PER REFTTEL) WITH STATEMENT IN
FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS (AMENDED VERSION OF USUN DRAFT DATA-
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MUCH FURTHER, THE FORMAL ORIGINS OF THIS EXERCISE ARE
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3. IN THE TWO YEARS SINCE THIS RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED BY CONSENSUS, MY DELEGATION HAS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE VARIOUS FORMAL AND INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS. WE DID SO BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS. IN HIS STATEMENT BEFORE THE SECOND COMMITTEE AT THIS SESSION, THE U.S. UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, RICHARD COOPER, SAID THE FOLLOWING:

"THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE OBJECTIVES OF RESTRUCTURING AND REFORM OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS. REFORMS OF THE UNITED NATIONS WILL PERMIT MORE ACTIVE SUPPORT AND UTILIZATION OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES. MORE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF INSTITUTIONS SHOULD BE A WORLDWIDE CONCERN. WE MUST BE ABLE TO MAKE THE MOST EFFICIENT USE OF THE PRECIOUS AND INCREASING RESOURCES NOW BEING COMMITTED TO DEVELOPMENT. WITH PROPER STEPS INVOLVING BUDGET AND PROGRAM REFORM, CONSOLIDATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND EFFECTIVE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL EVALUATION, THE UN CAN PLAY A MORE IMPORTANT ROLE. WITHOUT THESE STEPS, DONORS AND RECIPIENTS WILL SELECT ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES. THIS IS A FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE THE MEMBERSHIP MUST FACE IN DEALING WITH THE RESTRUCTURING ROLE."

4. IT WILL COME AS NO SURPRISE THAT THE TEXT WE NOW HAVE BEFORE US, THE PRODUCT OF TWO YEARS' EFFORT, REPRESENTS A COMPROMISE AND THUS PROBABLY IS NOT TOTALLY SATISFACTORY TO ANY DELEGATION. CERTAINLY THE U.S. DELEGATION WOULD HAVE WISHED THAT CERTAIN PARTS OF THE TEXT BE STRONGER AND SOME OF THE CONCEPTS CONTAINED IN THE TEXT CONTINUE TO GIVE US CONCERN. I WILL RETURN TO THESE PROBLEM AREAS LATER. BUT THE POINT I WISH TO MAKE NOW IS THAT THIS FINAL PRODUCT IS LARGELY CONSTRUCTIVE. AS SET FORTH IN THE CHARTER, ONE OF THE PURPOSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS IS TO HARMONIZE THE ACTIONS OF NATIONS -- AND THIS REQUIRES MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND A MUTUAL WILLINGNESS TO SEEK A COMMON GROUND FOR ACTION.

5. WE HAVE FOUND SUCH A COMMON GROUND IN THIS TEXT AND WHATEVER ITS SHORTCOMINGS, IT DOES PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PROGRESS IN MANY AREAS. WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO BE EXHAUSTIVE, I WOULD SIMPLY NOTE THAT THE TEXT CONTAINS PROVISIONS FOR:

-- A STRENGTHENED ECOSOC THAT CAN SERVE AS A CENTRAL FORUM FOR THE DISCUSSION OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES;

-- A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW BY ECOSOC OF ALL OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UN SYSTEM WHICH WE BELIEVE SHOULD BE OF GREAT BENEFIT IN ASSISTING MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO UNDERSTAND THE OVERALL EFFORT OF THE UN SYSTEM IN THE AREA OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND TO IMPROVE ITS EFFECTIVENESS.

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-- INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN UN OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES;

-- IMPROVEMENTS FOR PLANNING, PROGRAMMING, BUDGETING AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND A REAFFIRMATION OF THE VITAL ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAM AND COORDINATION; AND

-- SIGNIFICANT PROPOSALS FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE UN SECRETARIAT. FYI: WE ASSUME THE FRENCH WILL HAVE ACQUIRED IN THE FINAL TEXT FOR PARAGRAPH 5 OF SECTION VIII. END FYI

6. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO GIVE ITS SUPPORT TO THIS TEXT WHICH WE BELIEVE REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UN SYSTEM, ON THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDINGS:

-- SECTION I (GENERAL ASSEMBLY): WE CAN ACCEPT THE BROAD DEFINITION OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION ONLY ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PROVISIONS DO NOT GO BEYOND THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNDER THE CHARTER. THUS WHILE THE CHARTER CALLS ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY "TO PROMOTE SOLUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS", ITS ROLE IS NEITHER TO NEGOTIATE PRECISE AGREEMENTS NOR TO PLACE RESTRAINTS ON THE NEGOTIATIONS IN OTHER FORUMS. WE INTERPRET "POLICY MAKING" AS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE APPLYING TO THE UN SECRETARIAT AND UN PROGRAMS AND BODIES. ON A BROADER LEVEL, WE INTERPRET "POLICY MAKING" AS ESTABLISHING GENERAL GUIDELINES OF A RECOMMENDATORY NATURE, NOT AS DECISION-MAKING. IN DEVELOPING THESE GUIDELINES, THE UN MUST STRIVE FOR GENUINE CONSENSUS WHICH WOULD BE REFLECTED

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IN OTHER FORUMS. UNGA RESOLUTIONS CANNOT BIND GOVERNMENTS

WITH REGARD TO THE WORK OF OTHER INDEPENDENT AGENCIES, OR DIRECTLY GOVERN THOSE AGENCIES THEMSELVES. AT THE SAME TIME, IN THE CONTEXT OF MEANINGFUL CONSENSUS WHERE GOVERNMENTS TAKE THEIR POSITIONS SERIOUSLY, GA RESOLUTIONS CAN AND SHOULD PROVIDE A NEEDED POLICY IMPULSE TO OTHER FORUMS.

-- SECTION III (OTHER FORUMS): THE REFERENCE TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE IS INACCURATE. GATT IS NOT A UNITED NATIONS ORGAN, PROGRAM, OR SPECIALIZED AGENCY. WE INTERPRET THE PHRASE "SHOULD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER AND WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE BASIC INSTRUMENTS GIVE FULL AND PROMPT EFFECT TO THE SPECIFIC POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL" AS CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOMMENDATORY NATURE OF SUCH RESOLUTIONS UNDER THE CHARTER, THE SPECIFIC RELATIONSHIP AGREEMENTS OF THE RELEVANT ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE DECISION MAKING PROCESSES IN EACH ORGANIZATION AS SET FORTH IN THEIR RESPECTIVE BASIC INSTRUMENTS. THIS TEXT RIGHTLY SPEAKS NOT OF "DECISIONS" BUT "RECOMMENDATIONS." UNDER THE CHARTER AND THE CONSTITUENT INSTRUMENTS OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ECOSOC ARE EMPOWERED TO ISSUE NO MORE THAN RECOMMENDATIONS, WHICH THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ARE FREE AND REMAIN FREE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT. IT IS ON THIS CONSTITUTIONALLY NECESSARY BASIS THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL INTERPRET THIS TEXT AND WILL TREAT IT IN CONCRETE CASES WHICH MAY ARISE. THIS UNDERSTANDING ALSO APPLIES TO SIMILAR REFERENCES IN SECTION VII (INTERAGENCY COORDINATION)

7. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE INTERPRETATIONS, MY DELEGATION WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INDICATE ITS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC PARAGRAPHS:

-- SECTION I, PARA. 1(B): THE CHARTER DOES NOT VEST THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITH THE AUTHORITY TO "ASSIGN" NEGOTIATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TIONS TO OTHER FORUMS OTHER THAN SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ITSELF.

-- SECTION II, PARA. 9: WHILE WE CAN ACCEPT THE PHRASE CALLING FOR "CONSIDERATION" TO BE GIVEN TO EXPANDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, THIS SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS PREJUDGING THE OUTCOME OF SUCH CONSIDERATION.

-- SECTION III, PARA. 3: OUR POSITION WITH REGARD TO GA RESOLUTION 31/159 REMAINS UNCHANGED.

-- SECTION VI, PARA. 10: WE CONTINUE TO HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT EXPANSION OF ACABQ BEYOND 16 MEMBERS.

8. WITH THE ABOVE INTERPRETATIONS AND RESERVATIONS IN MIND, LET ME REITERATE THAT MY GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSALS FOR THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC

AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UN SYSTEM AS CONTAINED IN THE TEXT BEFORE US AND URGES ALL OTHER COUNTRIES TO DO LIKEWISE.

9. THE APPROVAL OF THIS TEXT REPRESENTS, WE HOPE, NOT AN END BUT THE BEGINNING OF A PROCESS. THE TEXT ITSELF IS NOT SELF-EXECUTING BUT WILL REQUIRE SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTATION IN THE APPROPRIATE BODIES. IT WILL REQUIRE THE CO-OPERATION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND HIS STAFF. BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, IT WILL REQUIRE THAT WE, THE MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, CONTINUE OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TO TRANSLATE THE BROAD PRINCIPLES INTO PRACTICAL MEASURES AS WELL AS EXPLORE NEW AREAS IN WHICH IMPROVEMENTS MIGHT BE MADE. IT IS ONLY THROUGH SUCH CONTINUING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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COMMITMENT AND EFFORT THAT THE UNITED NATIONS CAN REALIZE ITS FULL POTENTIAL "TO ACHIEVE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN SOLVING INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS OF AN ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, OR HUMANITARIAN CHARACTER".

10. I REQUEST THAT MY COMMENTS BE INCLUDED IN EXTENSIO IN THE REPORT OF THIS COMMITTEE.

11. AS APPROPRIATE, USDEL ALSO MAY INDICATE USG APPRECIATION AND RESPECT FOR THE EFFORTS OF CHAIRMAN DADZIE IN LEADING THE AD HOC COMMITTEE. CHRISTOPHER

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APPROVED BY:IO/SA:TBROWN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 297854 ACTION USUN NEW YORK INFO
GENEVA, PARIS AND BRUSSELS DEC 14.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 297854

USEEC, ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, AORG

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Litigation History:
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SAS ID: 119462
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN RESTRUCTURING: USG FINAL POSITION
TAGS: AORG, UN
To: USUN N Y INFO GENEVA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/13f55dfc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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